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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/081,737	05/19/1998	QINGYUN LIU	19959Y	1859

210 7590 01/13/2003

MERCK AND CO INC
P O BOX 2000
RAHWAY, NJ 070650907

EXAMINER

RAMIREZ, DELIA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1652

13

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1652

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Application

Claims 1-9 and 16-19 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-9 and 16-19 appear to be allowable over the prior art of record.
2. Due to a potential interference *Ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Conclusion

3. Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1652 by facsimile transmission. The FAX number is (703) 308-4556. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 CFR 1.6(d)). NOTE: If Applicant submits a paper by FAX, the original copy should be retained by Applicant or Applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED, so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

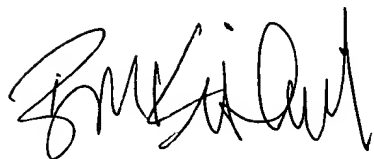
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Delia M. Ramirez whose telephone number is (703) 306-0288. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 1652

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Ponnathapura Achutamurthy can be reached on (703) 308-3804. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Delia M. Ramirez, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1652

DR
January 7, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Kisliuk", written in a cursive style.

**BRUCE KISLIUK, DIRECTOR
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600**